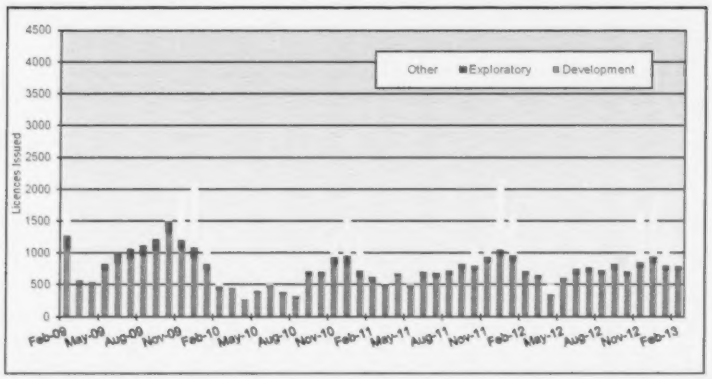
March 2013 Industry Activity Report

Monthly Well Licences



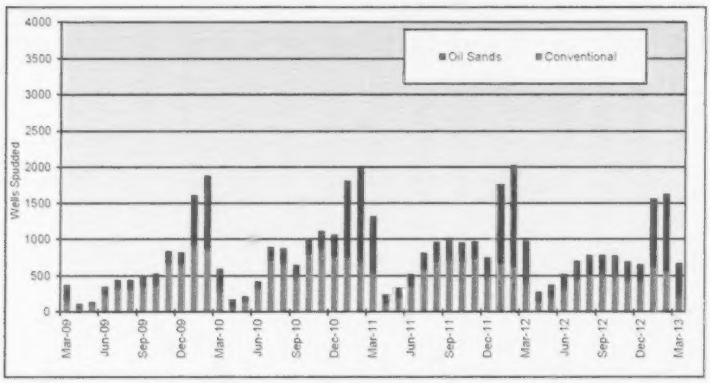
The number of new licences issued in February totalled 933, up 6% from last February's 882 permits.

Over the first two months, new well licences increased 4% from last year's 2,092 permits.

2013	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Development	821	591											1412
Exploration	74	66											140
NPW	35	28											63
NFW	5	2											7
DPT	11	24											35
Outpost	23	12											35
Exper. & Eval. Licences	355	276											631
Total	1250	933											2183

Source: Energy Resources Conservation Board

Alberta Wells Spudded (estimates)



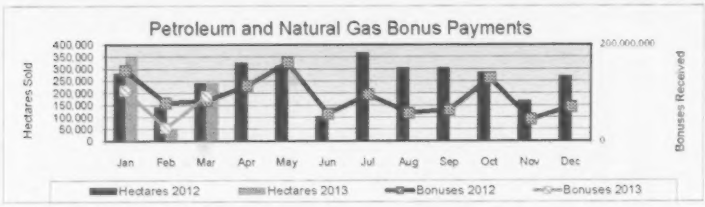
There were 672 spuds reported in March, down 31% from last March when there were 980 spuds reported.

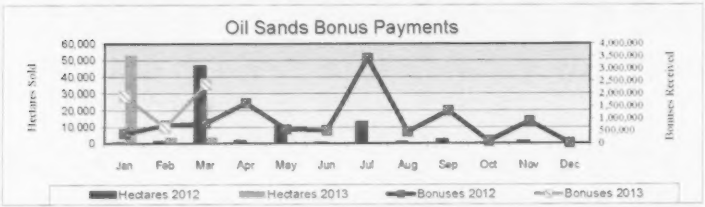
Over the first three months, 3,866 spuds were reported compared to 4,760 in 2012.

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2009	Conventional	1012	718	150	40	83	231	308	307	348	370	664	674	4,905
	Oil Sands	639	757	218	69	52	117	136	137	147	161	171	146	2,750
2010	Conventional	908	860	271	66	143	318	713	674	486	795	879	755	6,868
	Oil Sands	707	1018	321	97	73	103	178	204	165	210	233	310	3,619
2011	Conventional	747	697	529	120	181	359	593	696	705	685	734	485	6,531
	Oil Sands	1065	1304	789	121	153	166	219	270	312	270	237	269	5,175
2012	Conventional	669	625	381	146	181	282	441	495	509	488	424	423	5,064
	Oil Sands	1090	1396	599	130	193	236	260	288	273	288	268	232	5,253
2013	Conventional	622	558	199										1,379
	Oil Sands	943	1071	473										2,487

Source: Energy Resources Conservation Board

Petroleum & Natural Gas & Oil Sands Land Sales





Alberta's land sale bonuses in March, totalled $96.3 million for 245,905 hectares, up from $84.5 million for 284,795 hectares in March 2012.

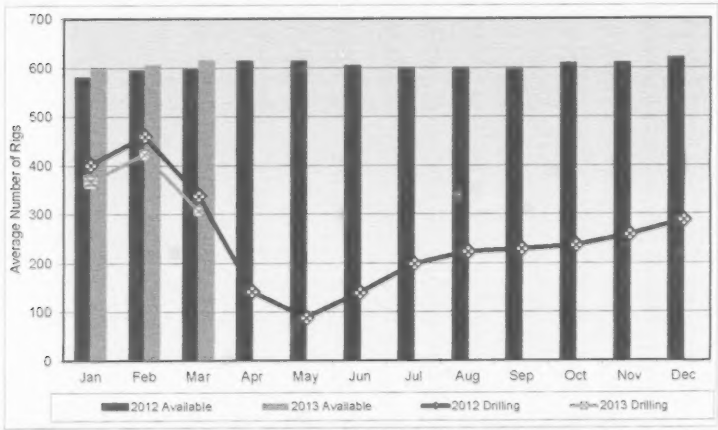
The total amount of land sold during the first quarter was 702,173 hectares. During this period in 2012, 704,634 hectares were sold. The average price per hectare so far this year was $391.39, up from $329.63/hectare last year.

Petroleum and Natural Gas Rights	Mar-13	Mar-12	YTD 2013	YTD 2012
Bonuses	$93,870,408.26	$83,699,039.71	$226,543,640.44	$308,790,050.49
Hectares	242321.18	238203.92	641982.45	656250.37
Average Price per Hectare (Cdn$)	$387.38	$351.38	$352.88	$470.54

Oil Sands Rights	Mar-13	Mar-12	YTD 2013	YTD 2012
Bonuses	$2,375,354.88	$797,365.76	$4,914,663.98	$1,898,663.92
Hectares	3584.00	46592.00	60190.32	48384.00
Average Price per Hectare (Cdn$)	$662.77	$17.11	$81.65	$39.24

Source: Alberta Department Energy

Alberta Rig Activity


Average Number of Rigs
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
2012 Available
2013 Available
2012 Drilling
2013 Drilling

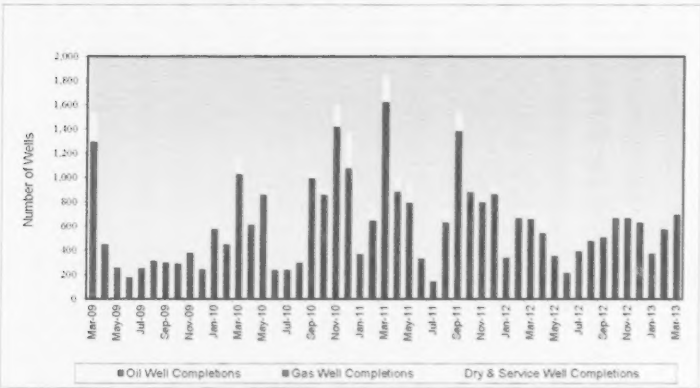
An average of 306 rigs were at work this March, down 10% from last March's 338 working rigs. The size of the rig fleet has increased from 597 in March 2012 to 615 in March 2013.

Fleet utilization for the first three months of 2013 was 60%, compared to 68% for this period in 2012. The average size of the fleet during this time in 2012 was 591 compared to 606 this year.

March	Drilling	Down	Available	Rig Util. Mar-13	Rig Util. Mar-12
Alberta	306	309	615	50%	57%
Saskatchewan	59	65	124	48%	48%
British Columbia	46	12	58	79%	69%
Northwest Territories	2	0	2	88%	25%
Manitoba	9	14	23	38%	34%
Canada	421	400	821	51%	56%

Source: Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors

Alberta Well Completions



Operators completed 812 wells in March up 13% from the 717 wells completed in March 2012.

Well completions from January-March totalled 1,833, including, 1,306 oil completions (up from 1,220 a year ago), and 332 gas completions (down from 458 last year).

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2009	Oil Wells	156	116	321	111	71	36	79	101	146	132	169	121	1,559
	Gas Wells	606	899	979	342	187	143	178	217	155	160	212	127	4,205
	Dry & Service	96	120	230	73	81	42	49	61	54	35	63	35	939
2010	Oil Wells	253	144	397	198	400	126	131	168	357	402	999	676	4,251
	Gas Wells	324	308	632	418	462	117	110	135	638	461	847	403	4,855
	Dry & Service	62	79	141	6	51	41	26	43	59	46	169	294	1,017
2011	Oil Wells	226	353	650	419	602	209	105	451	1030	626	559	568	5,798
	Gas Wells	145	294	974	472	196	124	43	183	356	259	243	299	3,588
	Dry & Service	42	127	222	112	160	100	97	94	145	19	32	73	1,223
2012	Oil Wells	215	489	516	405	296	205	348	380	447	588	533	523	4,945
	Gas Wells	131	181	146	141	62	12	46	98	65	81	137	110	1,210
	Dry & Service	35	48	55	126	128	37	94	63	12	23	80	59	760
2013	Oil Wells	313	449	544										1,306
	Gas Wells	59	124	149										332
	Dry & Service	9	67	119										195

Source: Daily Oil Bulletin, Nickle's Energy, Information, and Technology
For further information, visit www.nickles.com